



**THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BINGHAMTON  
STATE OF NEW YORK**

Date: September 12, 2011

Sponsored by Council Members: Gerchman, Webb, Weslar, Kramer

Introduced by Committee: Finance

**RESOLUTION**

*entitled*

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE  
DIVESTMENT OF TWO CITY OF  
BINGHAMTON ACCOUNTS FROM JP  
MORGAN CHASE

WHEREAS, the nation-wide foreclosure crisis has had an adverse effect on the City of Binghamton; and

WHEREAS, the City of Binghamton (the "City") has an interest in reducing the number of foreclosures within the City to preserve this community; and

WHEREAS, the City finds that JP Morgan Chase ("Chase") is the holder and/or servicer of mortgages within the City that have been foreclosed or are currently at risk for foreclosure; and

WHEREAS, evidence has been presented which demonstrates Chase's lack of willingness to engage in good-faith efforts to negotiate permanent mortgage modifications, particularly in New York, that would help keep Binghamton residents in their homes; and

WHEREAS, 50% of Chase mortgage loans given out in 2007 were subprime, while the average was 28%; and

WHEREAS, only 24% of all Chase mortgages loans applied for by Binghamton borrowers were prime, while the average was 45%; and

WHEREAS, the City has deposited City funds into Chase banking accounts; and

WHEREAS, the City should consider removing deposits from financial institutions that do not demonstrate a commitment to negotiating permanent mortgage modifications and other methods of keeping City of Binghamton residents in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the City further requests that Governor Cuomo and the New York State Senate and Assembly restore funding for skilled legal and financial counseling services for foreclosure prevention; and

WHEREAS, we request that Chase modify loans affected by predatory lending practices, reduce the principal to the current value of the property, reduce interest rates so that

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they are affordable and fixed for the long term, and finally waive all fees accrued since homeowners first asked for a modification.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the City of Binghamton, duly convened in regular session, does hereby:

RESOLVE that the City Comptroller is directed to divest two of the City's accounts from Chase immediately in protest and deposit the funds into an account at an institution approved by the City Council; and be it further

RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Chase, Governor Andrew Cuomo, State Senator Tom Libous and Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy  
of the legislation adopted by the Council  
of the City of Binghamton at a meeting  
held on 9/21/11. Approved by the  
Mayor on 9/22/11.

